



Proclamation

Presented

In Recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month raises awareness that one in every four women will experience domestic violence during her lifetime, and approximately 15.5 million children are exposed to domestic violence every year; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month emphasizes that when a family member is abused, it can have long-term negative effects on the victim that also leave a mark on family, friends and the community; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month underlines that the problem of domestic violence is not confined to any group or groups of people, but crosses all economic, racial, gender, educational, religious and societal barriers, and is sustained by societal indifference; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month reminds us that the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security and humanity due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic control and/or abuse; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month underscores that victims should have help to find the compassion, comfort and healing they need, and domestic abusers should be punished to the full extent of the law—and that it is important to recognize the compassion and dedication of the individuals who provide services to victims of domestic violence and work to increase public understanding of this significant problem; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month underlines that it is battered women themselves who have often been in the forefront of efforts to bring peace, equality and healing to our homes and communities; and

WHEREAS, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) was enacted in 1994 and is now celebrating its 20th anniversary, having created and provided improved services to those suffering from abuse, as those who receive comprehensive services and advocacy such as those funded by VAWA are more likely to achieve their goals of safety, healing and economic security;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim October 2014 as

“DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH”

in Hawai'i, and ask all citizens of the Aloha State to join us in applauding the ongoing efforts made possible by the Violence Against Women Act in providing treatment, support and advocacy for those suffering from abuse, and redoubling our efforts to recognize and combat domestic violence in the islands.

DONE at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this first day of October, 2014.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i